IN REPLY REFER TO

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N6 Ser/1U554938
31 July 2001

Dear Fleet Support Officer,

As announced in NAVADMIN 182/01, a new Restricted Line community, the Information Professional (IP) community (1600 designator), will be established effective October 2001 to meet the growing demands for specialized skills in Space, Information Technology, and Command & Control. As the sponsor for this new community, I invite you to seriously consider becoming a member of this officer community. Members of the IP community will be the leaders in maintaining superior maritime operations in the Information Age.

The IP community will provide our battle forces with a technically skilled and operationally savvy leader that understands how to exploit space and information technologies. Information Professionals will not only operate and defend our networks, but also aggressively support the commander, lead the staff in information and knowledge management, and adapt doctrine to exploit Information Age warfighting processes. The community will provide promotion opportunity leading to Flag and have a sea/shore rotation that supports continued operational currency. A working group is still examining the possible expansion of the community to include Limited Duty and Warrant Officers with IP related competencies. The foundation of the community will be technical education and training opportunities institutionalized throughout an officer's career. Additional information on the IP community vision including notional career path and frequently asked questions may be obtained at the IP community website:

http://cno-n6.hq.navy.mil/IPC/index.htm

A special transition board to determine initial accession into the IP community will be held in September 2001. Interested Fleet Support Officers (FSOs) with education or experience in the following subspecialties are encouraged to apply for transition: Operations Analysis (0042); Joint C4I (0045); Information Warfare (0046); Electrical Engineering (0055 series); Space (0075); Space Systems Operations (0076); Space Systems Engineering (0077); Information Systems Technology

(0089); Computer Science (0091); and Modeling, Virtual Environments & Simulations (0099). FSOs not possessing one of the above listed subspecialties but with other experience in Space, Electronic Warfare, and Combat Systems may also be eligible for selection. Applications to the IP community may be made via the following website:

http://www.lamadd.navy.mil/fso_survey/fso_resume.html

    Navy leadership is committed to making the IP community a success. This community is critical to conduct successful Network-Centric Operations ashore and afloat and will keep Navy relevant in the Information Age. If you have questions about the Information Professional community, please contact CDR Lynn Johnston, the IP Community Manager, at (703) 601-1293/DSN 329-1293 or via e-mail at johnston.rita@hq.navy.mil.

R. W. Mayo
Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy

This is a great opportunity for you and for the Navy. Please strongly consider joining us!

Rm